

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A monoclonal antibody ~~according to claim 20 wherein~~
~~said monoclonal antibody forms an immunological complex~~ which forms an immunological
complex with a phosphorylated epitope present in a human abnormally phosphorylated tau
protein, wherein said tau protein is obtained from a brain homogenate, isolated from the
cerebral cortex of a patient having Alzheimer's disease or having died of Alzheimer's disease,
wherein

(a) said abnormally phosphorylated tau proteins

i. present an apparent molecular weight which is higher than that
of normal tau proteins, obtained from brain homogenates isolated from a patient
having died of nonneurological disorders; and

ii. the apparent molecular weight can be decreased to that of
normal tau proteins upon treatment of said abnormally phosphorylated tau proteins
with a dephosphorylating agent; and

(b). the monoclonal antibody is selected to exclude forming in the immunological
complex with:

i. tau protein present in brain homogenates derived from the
human brain, said homogenates being isolated from a patient having died of a
nonneurological disorder; and

ii. the phosphorylated epitope treated with a dephosphorylating
agent; and

wherein said monoclonal antibody forms an immunological complex

(a) with a peptide YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 2), wherein said peptide is phosphorylated at a position marked with *,

(b) or with any other peptide forming an immunological complex with said monoclonal antibody, ~~which that~~ forms an immunological complex with the peptide

YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 2).

Claims 22-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended) A hybridoma which secretes a monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said monoclonal antibody forms an immunological complex

(a) with a peptide YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 2), wherein said peptide is phosphorylated at a position marked with *,

(b) or with any other peptide forming an immunological complex with said monoclonal antibody, ~~which that~~ forms an immunological complex with the peptide

YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 2).

25-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising:

(a)—A first monoclonal antibody wherein said monoclonal antibody forms an immunological complex

(i) with a peptide YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 2), wherein said peptide is phosphorylated at a position marked with *,

(ii) or with any other peptide forming an immunological complex with said monoclonal antibody, ~~which~~ that forms an immunological complex with the peptide YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPG^{*}SPGT (SEQ ID NO 2);

~~(b) a buffer solution.~~

30. (Currently Amended) A monoclonal antibody which forms an immunological complex with a phosphorylated epitope present in a human abnormally phosphorylated tau protein, wherein said tau protein is obtained from a brain homogenate, isolated from the cerebral cortex of a patient having Alzheimer's disease or having died of Alzheimer's disease, wherein

(a) said abnormally phosphorylated tau proteins

i. present an apparent molecular weight which is higher than that of normal tau proteins, obtained from brain homogenates isolated from a patient having died of nonneurological disorders; and

ii. the apparent molecular weight can be decreased to that of normal tau proteins upon treatment of said abnormally phosphorylated tau proteins with a dephosphorylating agent; and

(b) the monoclonal antibody is selected to exclude forming in the immunological complex with:

i. tau protein present in brain homogenates derived from the human brain, said homogenates being isolated from a patient having died of a nonneurological disorder; and

ii. the phosphorylated epitope treated with a dephosphorylating agent; and

wherein said monoclonal antibody forms an immunological complex:

(a) with a peptide YSSPGSPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPGSPGT (SEQ ID NO 2), wherein said peptide is phosphorylated at a position marked with *,

(b) or with any other peptide forming an immunological complex with said monoclonal antibody that forms an immunological complex with the peptide

YSSPGSPGT (SEQ ID NO 1) or YSSPGSPGT (SEQ ID NO 2);

wherein said monoclonal antibody forms an immunological complex with an epitope of the human abnormally phosphorylated tau protein comprising a phosphorylated serine.

31. (Currently Amended) A kit according to claim 29 further comprising a second antibody recognizing a different epitope from said first monoclonal antibody, the second antibody being a monoclonal antibody ~~protein or which is a polyclonal antibody~~ of normal tau, or of abnormally phosphorylated tau protein or which is a polyclonal antibody of normal tau, or of abnormally phosphorylated tau.

32. (Previously Presented) The kit according to claim 29, further comprising a buffer solution for carrying out the immunological reaction between said first monoclonal antibody and test sample.

33. (Previously Presented) The kit according to claim 31, further comprising a buffer solution for carrying out the immunological reaction between said first monoclonal antibody and a test sample and the second antibody and the marker.